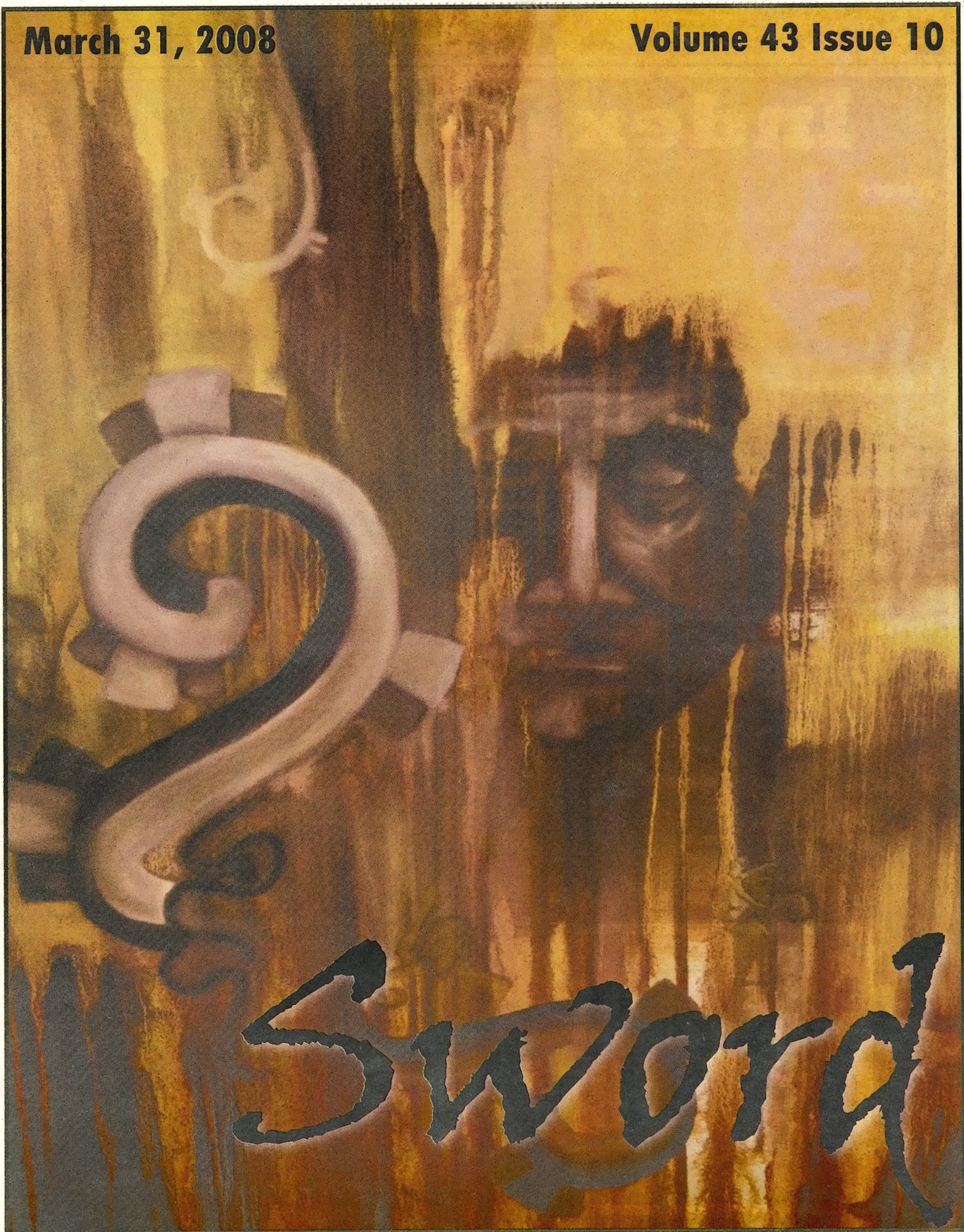


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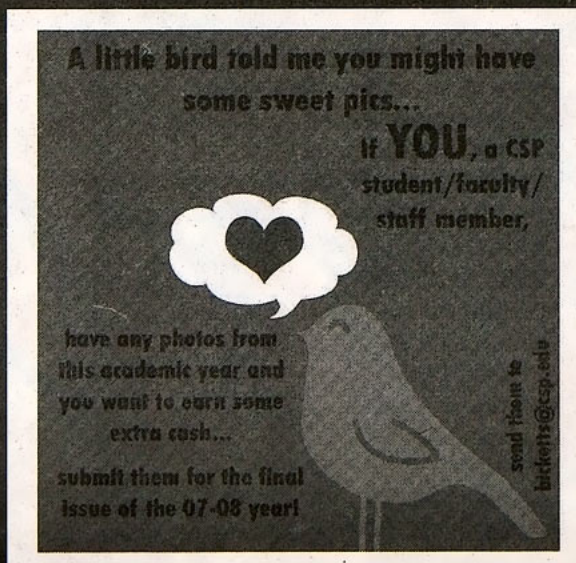
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Cover photo courtesy of
Sydnee Bickett

Alumni Honored at "Looking Back, Moving Forward"

By Tim Sailer, News Editor

Graduates from Concordia's MTEPS program arrived on campus last month for a special recognition. MTEPS stands for Metropolitan Teachers Education Program Selection, and around 25 graduates were honored at the event in the Cross of Christ Fellowship Center.

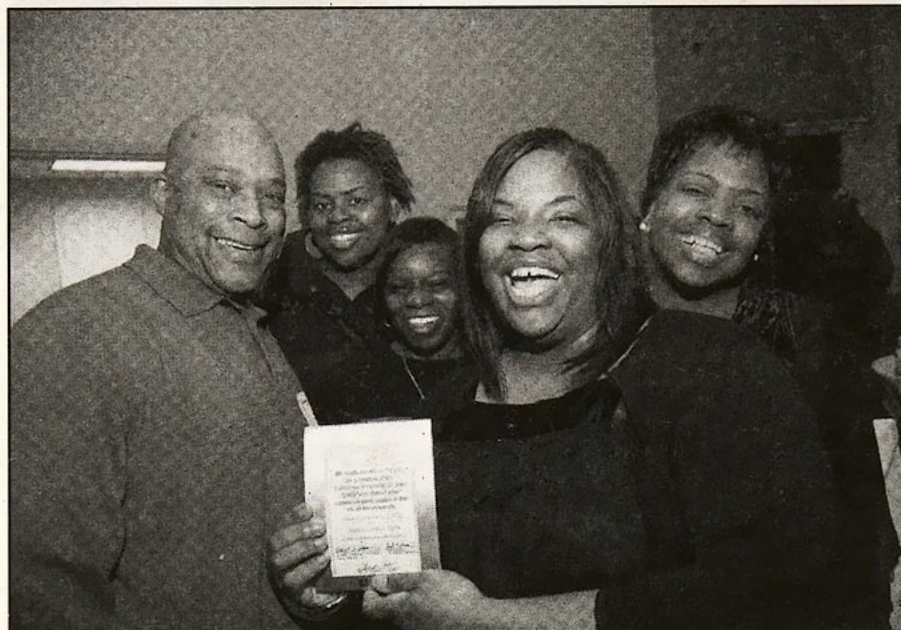
A council was formed in late December to help organize "Looking Back, Moving Forward," designed specifically to occur in February in conjunction with celebrating Black History Month.

The council included Charles Martin, assistant director of alumni relations; Alumni Council members Barbara Washington, Clarence Jones and Bob Cordes; Michael Brooks and Jessica Ellis, students and co-presidents of UMOJA (United Minds of Joint Action); as well as Dr. Cheryl Chatman, vice president of the university and dean of diversity.

According to an MTEPS document, the primary aim of this program was to "supply the lack of minority teachers in Elementary Education in the seven county area." The program began in 1968 in order to help the "educationally disadvantaged broaden their opportunities for higher education."

Many members arrived back on campus to share heart-felt stories.

Charles Martin said one man hadn't been on campus since he



Last month, MTEPS alumni, family and friends gathered for an evening of entertainment, history and recognition at "Looking Back, Moving Forward." Photo courtesy of Greg Helgeson.

completed the program in the late 60s. "This was a really personal invitation to him...It was good we were able to bring people back on campus, re-engage them and get them plugged back into the community."

President Holst agrees. He said the event was "important because the MTEPS graduates are a special group and CSP has let them 'slip away.' Their stories, successes have much to offer students, faculty and staff."

The evening began with a social hour and entertainment provided by Shades of Harmony multicultural choir. Greg Washington, who gradu-

ated two years ago in the degree-completion program, brought his gospel choir along to sing.

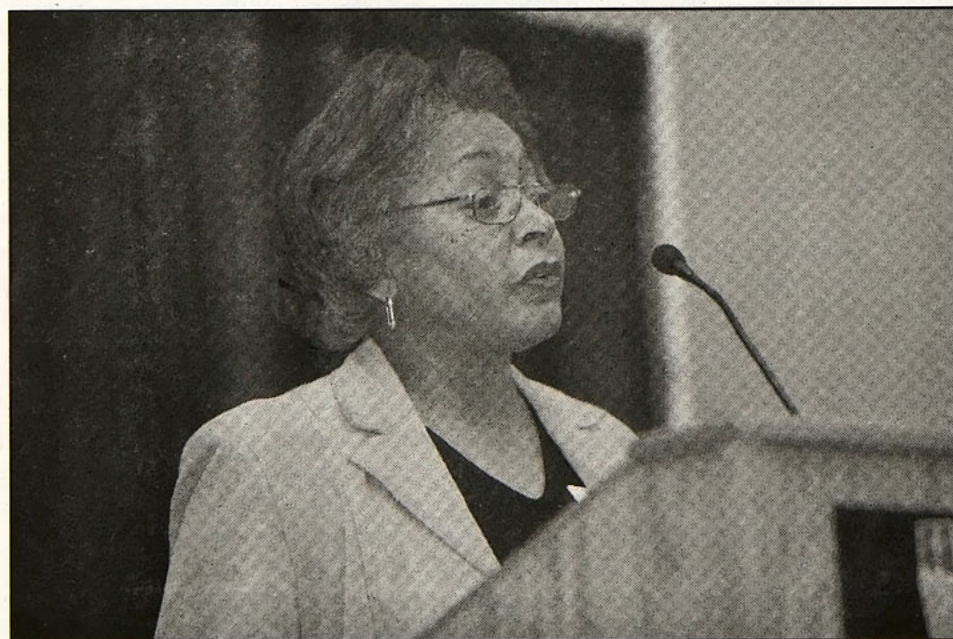
Additionally, Dr. Delores Henderson provided a history of MTEPS.

Then Iris Lewis ('75) shared her story and experience with the program. Both Martin and Pres. Holst recalled her moving story.

She was told she wasn't "college material by her high school advisor," said Holst. "Told by her husband to work while he joined the MTEPS—but she joined and still worked although her husband quit his job—and now two of her children have doctorates and the third is nearing earning a doctorate, and her nine grandchildren were bright and shining like stars."

Dr. Chatman, who believed "Looking Back, Moving Forward" was long overdue said, "One beautiful sight for me was to see the reunion of faculty and staff who taught some of the MTEPS students – the hugs, the conversations and the program."

Each graduate or participant of MTEPS received a certificate place in a curved silver frame stating the following: *We celebrate and honor you as a member of the Concordia University, St. Paul family and cherish your continued participation in the life of the university.*



Iris Lewis ('75) shares her story through the MTEPS program. Photo courtesy of Greg Helgeson.

NEWS BRIEFS

Jones Plans to Retire

(CSP Staff) Dr. Edie Jones, Associate Professor and Vice President for Congregational and Community Relations has announced her plans to retire on July 31, 2008.

She began her service to Concordia in 2001 as vice president for Student Affairs. The office of Community and Congregational Relations was formed in 2004 where Jones began her leadership as primary liaison to area congregations.

Her retirement chapel service will take place on April 10 at 11 a.m. in the Graebner Memorial Chapel

CSP Receives Leadership Award from Hmong Chamber

(CSP Staff) The Minnesota Hmong Chamber of Commerce recognized Concordia University's outreach efforts to the Hmong community by presenting the University with the Chamber's Leadership Award at its annual recognition banquet on March 19.

The Leadership Award is given to "an individual or organization that has demonstrated accomplishment in coalition building, community service and fostering business relationships," according to the award criteria, and "has demonstrated a passion for learning and sharing ideas with unyielding integrity."

The nomination highlighted Concordia's efforts in several areas, including its service-learning curriculum, the Southeast Asian (SEAT) Licensure Program, and the Center for Hmong Studies, which, among various achievements, founded a Hmong Studies minor, co-located with the Hmong Archives to preserve more than 100,000 books, tapes and related artifacts on Hmong culture, launched a public affairs radio program, Haiv Hmong, (KFAI 90.3 FM in Minneapolis, 106.7 FM in St. Paul), and organized the second biennial International Conference on Hmong Studies, which will attract more than 30 Hmong scholars and more than 500 participants.

Visiting Scholar Presents State of Print Journalism

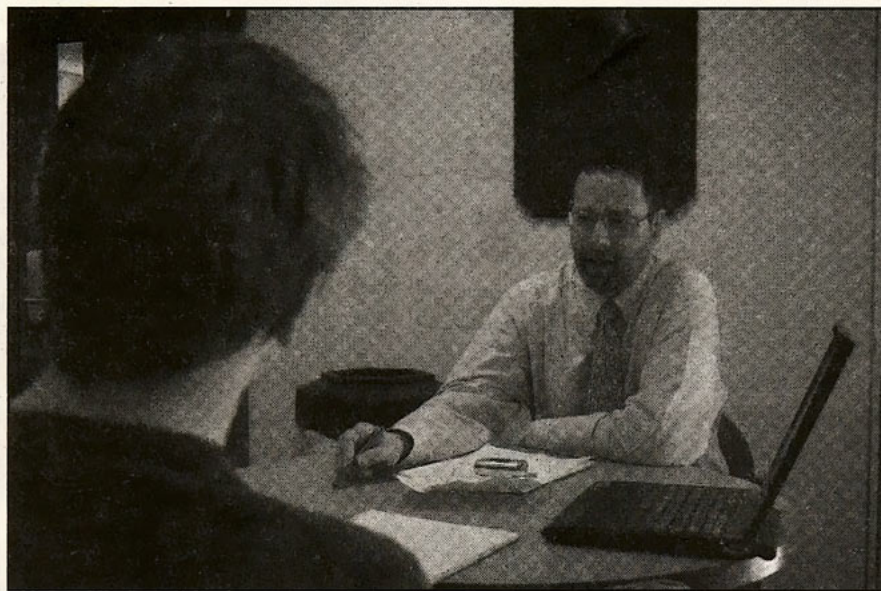
Woodrow Wilson Fellow Inspired by Concordia University

By Tim Sailer, news editor

Around fifteen students strolled into the Buenger Education Center last month for one of the periodic Wednesday convocations. They joined a host of faculty and staff members scattered throughout the mauve chairs.

The scarcity of students ended up being an ironic testimony to Bill Glauber's speech on the state of journalism and students' lack of involvement with the news.

Glauber visited Concordia for three days (March 2-5) at the Woodrow Willson Fellow, a program that places professionals and scholars across the nation at various colleges and universities.



Bill Glauber has covered everything from high school basketball, to the Olympics, to the British royal family and to a large number of recent wars. He gave his speech on the state of print journalism in a recent convocation. Photo courtesy of Colby Reinking.

I think the students...seem engaged--really seem to want education. I've been very impressed with Concordia, very impressed.

**Woodrow Wilson Fellow,
Bill Glauber**

Although many did not attend the convocation, Glauber was still able to gain a good glimpse of Concordia University. He attended chapel, met with President Holst, had dinner with AEX, and spoke with students in eight classes during his time.

"I am delighted to see the diverse cultures in the classrooms and the

talk that can be generated by that," said Glauber. "I think the students I talked to seem engaged—really seem to want education. I've been very impressed with Concordia, very impressed."

He was captivated by the chapel service, which was the matins service. He admitted to immediately noticing the floor, which was the original gym hardwood floor. But then he became fascinated by the service.

"The service was superb...I can see it as a way of people renewing their faith and clearing their mind in the middle of the day," said Glauber.

As a journalist, Glauber has been reporting and writing his entire career, covering topics such as New England high school athletics, Olympics, following the royal family in London, the wars in Kosovo, Afghanistan and

Iraq.

No matter issues or topics he's covering, his work as a reporter has maintained the same draw.

Glauber said, "The appeal was always to write about people and to meet new and interesting people and to sort of be in new and interesting situations. And it's always remained the same. I'm constantly asked 'what am I going to do when I grow up,' and I guess I'm not going to."

Currently, he is a reporter for the "Milwaukee Journal Sentinel," covering aging and demographic issues.

"I get to write about the trends that affect all of our lives, the trends that have literally changed the face of America. Change is around us," Glauber said.

That was part of his opening speech to the convocation. Glauber proceeded with facts about the trends and transformation happening across America and the world:

- Americans drink more bottled water than milk.
- We spend more than twice as much on prescription drugs as sporting goods.
- In 1957, a college education was a rare thing. A gift bestowed on about one in ten adults. Now, more than one in four adults has a college degree.
- Work, marriage, births, divorce, all of the stuff of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, have undergone profound changes in the last 50 years.

"You are, in effect, living life in the

new America," said Glauber.

The problem, as Glauber sees, is the future generations don't seem to realize they are in the middle of history. College students click on Google or Facebook for their news or the "journalistic juggernaut," the Daily Show.

Newspapers, on the other hand are cutting back on staff, losing stock and advertising. It's a business, and print journalism is dwindling.

From Glauber's speech:

"I really am one of the lucky ones who have been given the front-row seat to history. I only hope that more journalists, younger journalists, have this opportunity and privilege. Not just because it's fun or interesting but because it is necessary to tell the story of our time."

**Bill Glauber, convocation
March 5, 2008**

Glauber also mentioned his boss, "executive editor Marty Kaiser, says the biggest competition for newspapers isn't other media, it is people's time." Glauber added a few seconds later that "reading the news isn't quite as fun as playing Guitar Hero."

Sprits of chuckles from the audience popped in an out during his speech. Glauber's delivery was as dry as his humor which appeared to blend well with the seriousness of his convocation.

"Over the coming years, there will be more scandals and more wars," said Glauber. "We will have to cover this great American story, a story now more and more, connected to events around the world."

The convocation concluded with a question and answer period, focusing on election coverage, fairness and objectivity.

Ultimately, Glauber asserted journalists will still write for an audience. But who will listen? Who will read?

SAVE THE DATE

Concordia University's very own Vocal Jazz Ensemble,

Vox 9

performs on Thursday, April 3, 2008
in the Westlund Theater Black Box
beginning at 8 pm.

FREE entertainment, food, and beverages.
Hosted by Concordia Activities Board.

Concordia Strives for Accreditation

By Evan Palenschat, contributing writer

Accreditation is something for which every education institution strives. It lets students know that their money is put to good use in a college or university that is recognized by employers and other higher learning organizations.

Concordia is reviewed by a few different institutions for maintaining accreditation standards. One is the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association. Concordia offers this institution annual reports to make sure we are meeting standards. They also make visits every ten years to administer a comprehensive examination. This visit will take place April 7-9, 2008.

Dr. Carl Schoenbeck is the Director of Institutional Planning and Accreditation at Concordia. He splits the accreditation process into two categories: compliance and improvement.

Compliance is related to what the state, the federal government and other private institutions hold a college or university accountable for. There are certain standards that need to be met in order to be labeled as an "accredited" school.

Schoenbeck said, "The federal government puts millions into higher education and they want to know where their money is going." If an institution doesn't meet these standards money will sometimes not be provided.

The second category, according to Schoenbeck, is improvement. This is related to how an institution compares to other colleges and universities. Schoenbeck said, "If you develop a system for improvement you can build your planning process of the institution around the accreditation process."

As an example of how a university can improve, Schoenbeck men-

tioned technology, which is always changing and improving. Concordia became a "laptop university" over a decade ago, establishing it as a technologically-advanced university. When wireless Internet innovations became available, the university embraced the new technology.

Schoenbeck said that there will be six people coming on April 7-9 to confirm that Concordia is still accredited. Schoenbeck and his staff have prepared a report and a website that contains proof that Concordia has not been lax on compliance and improvement. The institution has been working on this report for two years, and all of the faculty have been involved to a certain extent. Some have put in dozens of hours on this product.

There is also the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). This is a voluntary program that Concordia subscribes to in order to be sure that our teacher education program is recognized as being accredited.

Schoenbeck commented, "We don't only want state recognition... we also want national recognition." Minnesota is an NCATE state. Concordia has also prepared a report and a website for NCATE which will meet in October to decide if Concordia is still an accredited institution.

Concordia also uses the Association of Collegiate business Schools and Programs (ASCBS). This is another voluntary action taken by the university to ensure that our Bachelor of Business Administration is recognized. The accreditation group will be coming to Concordia in 2015.

Schoenbeck also commented that this is another way in which Concordia ensures that their diplomas mean something and are recognized by employers and other institutions.

2008-2009 Registration Dates Have Changed

Due to the Higher Learning Commission's accreditation visit the week of April 7-11, 2008 registration for the FALL semester will take place a week later than what is published on the University Academic Calendar. The registration dates are as follows:

Seniors: April 14
Juniors: April 15
Sophomores: April 16

If you have a hold on your account you will need to speak with a BEAR Center representative about this before you will be allowed to register.

POLISH YOUR SKILLS, SHINE IN THE INTERVIEW

Student Alumni Council and Careers Services are partnering to bring students

**GOOD INTERVIEW,
GREAT JOB!**

This event is designed to help students polish their job interviewing skills. All students will have the opportunity to practice their interviewing skills with CSP alumni representing a variety of companies and industries.

DATE: Monday, April 7, 2008

WHERE: Buenger Education Center

WHAT: Sign up for a half hour time block to practice your interviewing skills! Choose a time starting at 3:30 p.m. The last time slot is at 6:30 p.m..

TIPS

- Please be early
- Food is provided by Alumni Relations!
- Students are STRONGLY encouraged to dress professionally, as if for a "real" interview.
- Please bring a copy of your resume. The interviewer will not provide feedback on your resume, but will use it to develop questions.

Space is limited and registration is required.

Please register at:
[HTTP://WWW.CONCORDIA.CSP.EDU/CAREERS](http://www.concordia.csp.edu/careers)
 by Monday, March 31

POLISH YOUR SKILLS, SHINE IN THE INTERVIEW

WANTED: SWORD STAFF 08-09

We're looking for page editors, advertising, artists, photographers, writers, and all other journalistic positions.

Please send your inquiries to Tim Sailer at sailert@csp.edu for "The Sword" next year.

Bus-eum Exhibit Travels to CSP

(CSP Staff) The Traces Center for History and Culture will bring its traveling museum, Bus-eum, to Concordia University on Tuesday, April 8.

This 21-seat mobile history theatre tells the story of more than 15,000 German-Americans who were interned as potential enemies of the United States during World War II.

Eberhard Fuhr was interned in a camp in the U.S. along with other German- and Japanese-Americans for four years and then faced deportation after the war. He will present his powerful story in conjunction with the Bus-eum exhibit.

Both the Bus-eum and the presentation are free and open to the public.

IF YOU'RE GOING...

Tuesday, April 8

Noon Lecture: Eberhard Fuhr, internment camp detainee
Buetow Music Center Auditorium

11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Bus-eum Open for Viewing
Lot B

the Concordia University Theatre Department proudly presents

The Pirates of PENZANCE

music by Arthur Sullivan

libretto by W. S. Gilbert

directed by Grif Sadow

musical direction by Shari Speer

April 24 - 26 at 7:30 p.m.

April 27 at 2 p.m.

E.M. Pearson Theatre
312 Hamline Ave. N.

TicketWorks
651-209-6689
www.TicketWorks.com



SENIOR SENDOFF

Where



When

Thursday, May 1 • 6 p.m.

Why/Who

Faculty, staff, students
and families are invited to celebrate
the accomplishments of our seniors

\$\$\$

\$20/person

(\$10 of which will be contributed to the CSP senior class gift)

To Register

www.ave.csp.edu/senior-sendoff



Concordia
UNIVERSITY-SAINTE PAUL

It's "a boat" time!
Join us on the Paddelford Riverboats on

Saturday, April 12, 2008

9 pm - 12 am

Remember to bring back your springy attire
and your personal flotation device.

Spring Fling: Save the date!



"Semi-Pro" Marks No New Ground for Ferrell

By Justin Pinotti, contributing writer

Comedy is an interesting animal. No two tastes in comedy are the same from person to person. One man's garbage is another man's gem and one man's Will Ferrell is another man's...well, Will Ferrell.

While movies are incredibly subjective, I believe comedies show the most drastic differences in a person's preferred movie style. I happen to find Will Ferrell very funny and entertaining. I don't know what it is about the man, whether it's his comedic delivery, the all-out abandon the man goes through for every joke, or if it is just the look in his eyes when he says the most unimaginable four, five, six, and twelve-letter words.

Not counting "Bewitched" or "Kicking and Screaming," I find his legitimate comedies to be consistently funny. "Semi-Pro" stands out from the crowd a bit. It definitely isn't a full-fledged step forward, but definitely a distinguished step to the side.

"Semi-Pro" follows the generic plot line of a sports comedy/Will Ferrell movie: Jackie Moon (played by Ferrell) is the owner/coach/starting power forward for the Flint, Michigan Tropics of the now defunct American Basketball Association (or the ABA). He received the money to buy the team off of his number one hit single "Love Me Sexy," a pretty funny parody of the 70's disco/soul movement.

The ABA announces a merger with the NBA and is only taking the top four teams to the NBA. The Tropics are one of the worst teams in the ABA, which leaves it up to Ferrell and his friends Coffee Black, the

team's star guard (played by Andre Benjamin of Outkast fame), and Ed Monix, former NBA champion who sat the bench the entire season (played by Woody Harrelson) to put the team as fourth place in the league.

What works: I think Will Ferrell's style of comedy is very funny, so naturally his acting works for me. Aiding Will Ferrell in the quest to make me laugh is a very strong supporting cast of comedic actors, which is quickly becoming a staple in Will Ferrell's movies. The Tropics broadcast team of Will Arnett (an actor best known as G.O.B from Arrested Development), and Andrew Daly (from The Daily Show) deliver probably the best jokes in the entire movie. The Tropics' referee is an ordained minister and gets into some of the best back and forth comedy with Jackie Moon in the movie. My favorite aspect of this movie is that if you were to strip the comedy from it, the film actually functions as a fairly competent sports movie. The quest for fourth place instead of first is

original enough, but I do believe it is the presence of veteran actor Woody Harrelson that adds the depth to this movie that other Will Ferrell comedies fail to reach.

What doesn't work: While I do think this movie is very funny, there are no real signature jokes in it. Most Will Ferrell movies you can count on three to four really fantastic jokes or moments to really hang your hat on. Case in point: Last year's "Blades of Glory" was much more hit or miss than "Semi-Pro." However, there were a couple moments (including the best ending ever made) that lead me to reminisce on their humor. When I look back on "Semi-Pro," I don't get that memorable vibe from any of the jokes that I thought were funny.

If you are a fan of Will Ferrell's previous works, there aren't any reasons why you wouldn't like this movie. If you have not found Will Ferrell to be funny in the past, this film probably isn't the movie to change your opinion.



Grade:

B

Good

but not great

Pahawh Hmong: The 7 Days Language

By David Her, contributing writer

On Feb. 21, I attended the convocation on Pahawh Hmong (pah hou hmong) in the Buenger Education Center. The convocation was presented by Chai Koua Vang, the current headmaster of Pahawh in the world.

I soon learned that Pahawh was part of the Hmong written language and considered the Mother of Writing. The characters looked similar to Thai and Laotian writing, but it was bit different. It's difficult to explain Pahawh characters. You'd have to check it out at the Center for Hmong Studies located on Concordia's campus. It was interesting to see many different people at the lecture who were interested in this language.

In 1959, Pahawh Hmong (pah hou hmong) was created by Shong Lue Yang. The language currently consists of 26 vowels and 20 consonants. When the tones are added to the consonants, 20 become 60. That's 60 more letters than English. I watch Wheel of Fortune and imagine if a contestant has to pick three consonants and a vowel out of 86 letters; it would be tough to win the bonus round!

Even so, "this language can be learned in seven days," said Chai Koua Vang, the speaker and headmaster of Pahawh. In light of this, I've been learning English all my life and I still don't know everything about it.

In history, Shong Lue Yang was born on September 15, 1929, in Fi Tong, Vietnam. He was an uneducated orphan, but that didn't stop him from working hard. He brought five things to the Hmong: a writing system, culture, traditions, norms and values, and religion. His

dream was to turn Pahawh into text books, make the writing computerized and share Pahawh's discipline with the Hmong and the world.

Checking off his list, two Pahawh books have been published, the computer style is completed and all that is left is the third book of discipline in life.

So why aren't the majority of Hmong using this writing style? Well, Hmong like the easy way. It is easier to use the Hmong

RPA (Romanized Popular Alphabet) because it uses the same letters and numbers as English. I've been learning the Hmong RPA for 11 years and it's still difficult to master. One thing is for sure, the Hmong RPA and English are both ever-changing languages. The Pahawh is not. The system hasn't been modified since 1970 and only Shong Lue can modify it. However, he passed away in 1971.

For more information on the Pahawh or Hmong RPA, visit the Center for Hmong Studies next to the Chapel. The center is open weekdays from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.



Hmong

CULTURAL & LANGUAGE PROGRAM

**Concordia University,
St. Paul will host
the 2nd International
Conference
on Hmong Studies**

April 11-12, 2008

**For more information,
visit www.csp.edu/hmongcenter
or call 651.641.8870**

Ask Nate: Hesitant in Hyatt

By Nathan Leckband, contributing writer

Dear Nate,
I'm a sophomore at CSP and I'm looking for a roommate for next year. I want to live in the new dorms but don't have anyone to live with. My current roommate and I just don't get along but I'm hesitant to room with one of my close friends because I don't want our friendship to suffer. Help!

Hesitant in Hyatt



Photo courtesy of Nate Leckband

Dear Hesitant,

You're right to be anxious about choosing a roommate. This is the person who you are going to have to share living space with for at least nine months

when it's your turn to buy the toilet paper.

As bad of a roommate as you are, you're also smart. You know that if you room with a close friend your friend will discover just how terrible a roommate you are and by the end of the semester they'll never speak to you again.

I think you should try something completely different. Room with someone you already hate. The feeling of hatred should be mutual, but you might have a tough time convincing a person who hates you to be your roommate.

If you do succeed in convincing someone you don't like to be your roommate you'll have it made. When your roommate screams at you for being an inconsiderate slob, you'll just assume he or she is overreacting and won't have to worry yourself about being a better roommate.

Plus, if you hate each other you'll both spend the least amount of time

of your life, approximately the time it takes for a fertilized human egg to pop out of its mother's uterus.

Roommates, much like pregnancy, should not be taken lightly.

Since you're not getting along with your current roommate, I'll assume you're probably keeping him or her awake until 3 a.m. while you talk to your girlfriend or boyfriend at a volume that causes your roommate and everyone in adjacent rooms to despise you.



Let's also assume you leave dirty laundry scattered throughout the room and always have an excuse

possible in your dorm room when you know the other person's going to be there. It's the ideal situation—everybody wins.

In the meantime, I recommend taking your turn buying the toilet paper and picking up all your dirty laundry from the dorm room floor—or at least push it all to your side of the room. If your roommate is just as crappy of a roommate as you are then perhaps you're already living in the ideal situation and you just don't know it.



Above: Hyatt village. Photo courtesy of Concordia University.
Below: photo courtesy of ViewImages.com

Top 10 Summer Films

By Justin Pinotti, contributing writer

Every year around this time the newly released films are rather slow and low in quality. Cheap thrill action movies, cheesy romance, and cliché-filled horror movies fill the screen as studios bide their time this last month until the summer movie season kicks off.

Summer is the biggest season for movies because people have enormous amounts of free time. Studios can afford to pour big money into high-concept films that will make everyone involved filthy rich. This year is no different with around 85 percent of the big movies of the year coming out during the summer. Here's a preview of what you can expect and look forward to:

10. Hellboy 2: The Golden Army (July 11th)

"Hellboy" returns to the big screen for the second time after the excellent but almost virtually ignored first installment. A second movie was originally unlikely until it made a ton of money in DVD sales, proving there was a market for the film. Director Guillermo del Toro who most recently directed Academy Award winning movie "Pan's Labyrinth" returns with his visual flair, never-ending creativity, and slapstick humor. If you haven't seen the first one, you should check it out. This film is a bench mark in the superhero genre on par with any Spider-man or Batman film.



9. Wanted (June 27th)

Starring Angelina Jolie, Morgan Freeman, and the up and coming awesomeness of James McAvoy ("Atonement," "Last King of Scotland") this hyper-action movie looks to be the sleeper hit of the summer. Based on a comic about a league of villains, it is directed by Timur Bekmambetov, a Russian director whose first two films were the two highest grossing Russian movies ever made ("Night Watch" and its sequel "Day Watch"). Even though the trailer shows they are taking plenty of liberties with the source material, and I was not all that impressed with the director's previous films, this still looks like it could be the next "Matrix" with blowing action sequences and stunt work.

8. Hancock (July 2nd)

Will Smith in a movie with mind blowing special effects. Enough said, right? Well this movie seems to be more than it appears. The story is about Hancock, a superhero by night and a bum by day. It features a very interesting premise in which a superhero is a rather flawed individual, and also stars Will Smith who has become the top movie star in the world. At worst it looks like it will be a fun action movie, with a story that could prove to be very unique for its genre.



7. The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian (May 16th)

The first movie was very slow in places it didn't need to be, and too fast where it should have taken time to develop. This movie does look like it will feature an insane battle in it. As with all fantasy movies this definitely has the potential to be very cool. I'll hold my applause until I see the final cut.



6. Get Smart (June 20)

A fantastic television show in its day gets the best Maxwell Smart possible with Steve Carell. His off-delivery is perfect for the role, and the rest of the cast is perfectly suited for this action/comedy in the same vein as "Austin Powers."



5. The Incredible Hulk (June 13th)

The first "Hulk" movie was bad. So bad in fact the studio felt they needed to remake it. This isn't a sequel and that may confuse or alarm some people.

Article continued on pg. 13...

Breaking Down "Barriers"

Senior art major exhibits eleven paintings in upcoming show

By Sydnee Bickett, arts/variety editor

"I want people to come without any preconceived notions and just look."

This open-minded, free spirited ideal blends perfectly with the concept and the artist behind "Barriers," a senior show by art student Stephanie Guidera.

Guidera began her college career at Bethel University but after two years, became frustrated with the lack of communication with her art professors there about getting into studio courses. She transferred to Concordia in the second semester of her sophomore year and recognizes that it's "the faculty and the students in the art department that have really improved me."

Thankful for the progressive environment of Concordia's art department, Guidera admits that "art is able to be more art here. There's more freedom and caring resources here." This freedom to explore her abilities and skills has established confidence in Guidera. This confidence proves its presence in her eleven-piece show on deck at the H. Williams Teaching Gallery from March 31 to April 7 with an opening reception April 4 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Guidera's show contains paintings done as a response to her trip to Mexico City, Mexico last May. She received the Bush Fellowship Grant to travel with fellow CSP art students and faculty on a trip filled with "meeting with people, doing a lot of work with social and governmental issues, looking at public art and learning about social realists like Diego Rivera."

Her main goal in traveling with the group was to "try to get a clear view of who the people of Mexico were without including my own opinions or stereotypes." What surprised Guidera the most was the knowledge that a high percent-

age of Mexicans survive in conditions well under the poverty level. "Real-

She chose painting for "the process of applying the paint, building up colors

is Pablo's, the documentary filmmaker Guidera met in Mexico City. Pablo created a film portraying the thousands of Mexicans relentlessly crossing the wall that the US built between the borders. Speaking to Pablo's story, Guidera said, "Life is so bad where they are and they just keep trying. Our economy depends on migrant workers but we build this huge wall, a physical barrier. But it only makes it more of a challenge for the people to come to the US." Guidera hopes to include some background or context like Pablo's story near her paintings so that visitors to the show can understand these narratives she encountered on the trip.

"It's important to be able to try to understand a different culture but it's impossible to completely understand them," Guidera said. "It's the attempt to break through the barriers and see people as people that counts."

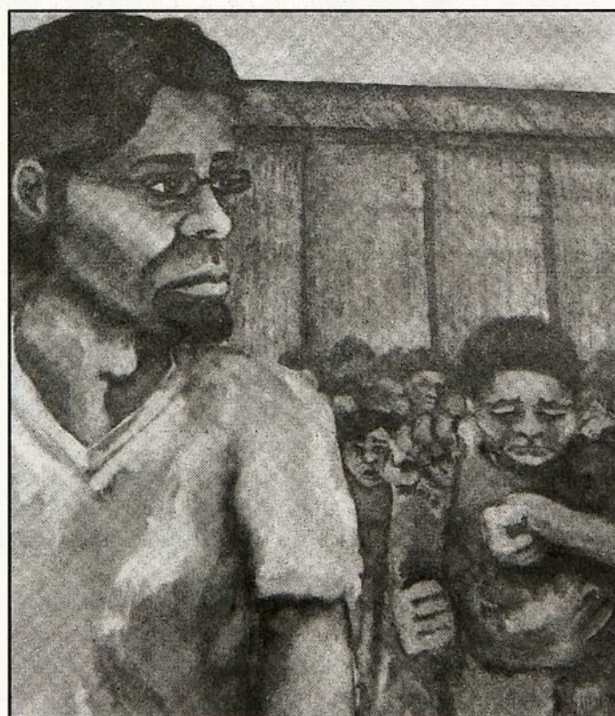
It's this "spirit of peaceful observation" that Guidera hopes everyone who views her shows comes with. She understands if "Mexico means nothing to anyone else." Beneath all the layers of paint she has built up into eleven narrative pieces, it's clear that Mexico means something to Guidera. After getting a sneak peak at the show, I believe it would be hard to leave the H. Williams Gallery with barriers and stereotypes intact.



All paintings by Stephanie Guidera, photos courtesy of Sydnee Bickett



and textures." Instead of showing the photographs by themselves, combining multiple photos allows Guidera to "take five different things, mesh them together, create a new environment



and new relationships and meaning" that a photograph simply cannot do. Throughout the show, Guidera attempts "to communicate a specific narrative instead of laying images in front of people."

One example of a specific narrative

izations of this truth that's out there, of things we're never shown was really eye-opening," Guidera said.

Along with these realizations was the openness of the people she encountered while on the trip. "Everyone we met was open to conversing. They all had a clear-cut mission for their life and were very eager to share that with us." These conversations started the wheels turning in Guidera's mind as a theme for her senior show.

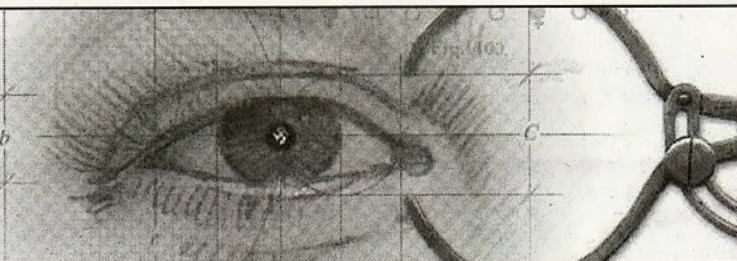
During the course of the trip, Guidera took over 600 photographs that, upon returning to the US, she combined into the paintings exhibited in the show.

Deadly Medicine: How Worthy is Your Life?

By Erin Anderson, opinion editor

DEADLY MEDICINE

CREATING THE
MASTER RACE



We all know of the horror surrounding the Nazis. We have read accounts of the mass genocide and racial "cleansing" committed by Hitler and his minions, but have any of us ever looked at the science behind the evil?

The Science Museum of Minnesota brings audiences a new exhibit, "Deadly Medicine: Creating the Master Race." I was able to take in the exhibit a few weeks ago, and I must say, I recommend it to everyone.

The exhibit, developed by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, brings together historical photographs, artifacts and survivor testimony from the Holocaust. The exhibit, according to curator Dr. Susan Bachrach, will "show how the Nazi regime under Adolf Hitler aimed to change the genetic makeup of the population through measures known as 'racial hygiene' or 'eugenics,' and the role that scientists in the biomedical fields—especially anthropologists, psychiatrists, and geneticists, these were all medically trained experts—the role they played in legitimizing these policies and helping to implement them."

Even before the Holocaust, individuals were developing ideas to rid society of an "unsavory" populace. As "Deadly Medicine" explains, ideas of eugenics began to form as early as the 1880s. Scientists in favor of eugenics, a term meaning "good birth," firmly believed that persons of "inferior" birth ought to be sterilized to prevent the growth of such "useless" individuals.

People born with mental or physical disabilities would be classified inferior. Deaf children and so called "slowwitted" children were either euthanized or forcibly sterilized to keep new generations of these "worthless" citizens from bringing down society.

They also believed that the Nordic race should be rewarded for procreating as this would encourage the positive growth of "superior" citizens.

Between the years of 1933 and 1945 the Nazis carried out their agenda of ridding society of those groups of peoples viewed to be detrimental to citizen's health or who hindered the advancement of the Aryan race. This racist thinking was legitimized by German scientists and ultimately led to the death of millions of people.



Above and right: During the late 1920s, anthropologists began an extensive survey of the German population, taking multiple physical measurements of individuals and recording family genealogies in order to trace hereditary traits. Photos courtesy of Ullstein Bild, Berlin/United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Photo and header courtesy of the Science Museum of Minnesota.

"Deadly Medicine" follows a timeline from the beginning of the eugenics movement through the Holocaust and to today. The eugenics movement did not start with the extermination of Jews, but rather with "unfit" Germans. It was the goal of eugenicists to "cleanse" the population of those individuals who would make the German nation weak.

These men and women of science were nothing more than calculated murderers. While many of the monsters contributing to the horrors of war were brought to justice after World War II, many of these scientists walked free. Some even went on to hold careers in pediatrics, which is a truly disturbing thought.

It is always amazing to me what human beings are capable of, and not in a good way. I left the exhibit feeling rather upset. How could such slaugh-

ter take place? What is even more upsetting is that this type of slaughter is still happening today. You would think that as an ever-evolving species, humans would possess the capacity to learn from their mistakes.

When I stated earlier that I recommend this exhibit to all, I meant it. "Deadly Medicine" is not just a fancy display to walk past; it is here to make people think. It often seems as if we have not progressed much from the bigoted ideals of Nazism. Perhaps, with more education and more understanding in the future, we can learn to move beyond these restraints and become accepting of one another.

This exhibit runs through May 4, so there



is still plenty of time to take it in. For more information, look on the website at www.smm.org/deadlymedicine.

There is a \$2 off discount after 5 p.m. available for students with a valid I.D!

Upcoming CSP Recitals & Art Shows

By Tim Sailer, news editor

Handbell Ensemble Home Concert
Friday, April 4, 7:30 p.m.
Graebner Memorial Chapel

Student Junior Recital:
MaryLynn Mennicke, soprano &
Tim Sailer, baritone
Sunday, April 6, 7:00 p.m.
Buetow Auditorium

Shane Fatland senior show
Opening reception Thur. April 10

Concordia Juried Student
Art Exhibition
April 10 - April 30
Art Department Gallery
Reception Thur. April 10, 5-7 p.m.
Awards Presentation 6:00 p.m.

Jubilate Easter Vespers
Thursday, April 10, 7:30 p.m.
Graebner Memorial Chapel

Student Senior Recital:
Susanna Mennicke, soprano
Saturday, April 12, 3:30 p.m.
Cross of Christ Fellowship Center

Instrumental Ensembles Concert
Thursday, April 17, 7:30 p.m.
Buetow Auditorium

Student Senior Recital:
Kody Dougan, tenor and guitar
Sat. April 19, 4:00 p.m.
Buetow Auditorium

Student Senior Recital:
Jessica Ellis, mezzo soprano
Sun. April 20, 3:30 p.m.
Buetow Auditorium

Pirates of Penzance
April 24, 25, 26 at 7:30 p.m.;
April 27 at 2:00 p.m.
E.M. Pearson Theatre;

Student Junior Recital:
Laura Hillman, organ &
Dana Raabe, clarinet
Sat. April 26, 3:30 p.m.
Buetow Auditorium

Vocal Ensembles Concert
Mon., April 28, 4:00 p.m.
Graebner Memorial Chapel

Have Spring Fever?

By Sydnee Bickett, arts/variety editor

Although it might not feel or look like spring by the time you read this, the season is actually here as of March 21. If you want to avoid early preparation for finals or simply just need something fun to do, check out these events happening in the Twin Cities.

Arts/Museums

Tues. April 1, 7 p.m.
Suburban World: The Norling Photos - Photos of Bloomington from the 1950s and 60s compiled by Brad Zellar.

Price: \$6-\$8

Minnesota History Center Library
345 Kellogg Blvd. W St. Paul

Ongoing until Sun. May 4
The Prints of Sean Scully
Minneapolis Institute Of Arts
2400 3rd Ave. S
Minneapolis, MN

Sat. March 22- Sun. June 15
Richard Prince: Spiritual America
Walker Art Center
1750 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis, MN

Ongoing until Sun.
April 20
Present Tense: The Photographs of JoAnn Verburg
Walker Art Center
1750 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis, MN

Ongoing until Fri.
April 11
Colleen Mullins: Elysium:
Urban Canopy Loss in Post-Katrina
New Orleans at the Hands of Man
(Photography)
9th Street Entry Gallery
500 N Robert St.
St. Paul

Ongoing until Sun. May 4
Enemy Within: Terror in America
1776 to Today
Minnesota History Center
345 W Kellogg Blvd.
St. Paul, MN

Dixie's on Grand

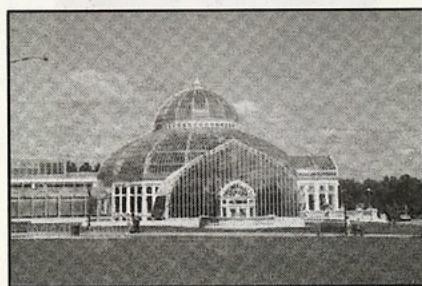
695 Grand Ave. St. Paul

Salsa Night
Every Friday, 10:00pm
Dixie's On Grand



Karaoke
Every
10:00pm
Thursday,

Events at the Como Zoo & Conservatory



Spring Flower Show Sunken Garden
Sat. March 22 to Sun. April 27, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Daily

The Birth of Coffee Photo Exhibition
Mon. March 24 to Wed. May 7
An international photographic exhibition extending an individual's personal coffee experiences, providing them with an understanding of the many people, places and processes involved in bringing coffee to the table.



Artist and Camera Event
Sun. April 13 from 8-10 a.m.
Marjorie McNeely Conservatory is opened before public hours to allow artists and photographers a chance to bring in tripods and easels, which normally are

not allowed.
Cost: \$5.00 per person.

Party for the Planet
Sat. April 19-Tues. April 22
A party for planet Earth? Como Zoo is teaming up with other AZA-accredited zoos, to host a nation-wide celebration to help visitors discover ways to connect to the local environment to make a collective difference in conservation on a national and global level. Plus, the grand opening celebration of the Leonard Wilkening Children's Gallery - an interactive play exhibit that focuses on the Circle of Life.

City Search's Top 10 Spring Things to Do

1. Minneapolis Farmers' Market
312 E Lyndale Ave N, Minneapolis

At the end of April, peruse Minnesota-grown fruits and veggies, plus farmstead meats and cheeses, and gorgeous flowers and plants.

2. Accolades Salon Spa
2065 Randolph Ave
St Paul

It's sandal season, so clean up those piggies and enjoy a relaxing pedicure at this St. Paul spa.

3. Goodwill Industries
2505 University Ave W
St Paul

Clean out your closet to make room for some new threads and donate your old clothes to the less fortunate.

4. Minneapolis Institute of Arts
2400 Third Ave, Minneapolis

Watch florists re-create famous artwork at April's annual Art in Bloom or get a taste of history at the du Pont exhibit through May.

5. HHH Metrodome
900 S Fifth St, Minneapolis

Mark your calendars and dust off your ball gloves. The Twins open their 2007 season on April 2.

6. Macy's
700 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis

Step into the eighth floor's elaborate indoor garden March 21 to April 7 or get ideas for your inner sanctum in the furniture department.

7. Erik's Bike Shop
1312 Fourth St SE, Minneapolis

Need a new bike or repairing an old one? These locally owned shops offers a wealth of bicycle goods and services.

8. Stella's Fish Cafe
1400 W Lake St, Minneapolis, MN

Seafood lovers are counting down the days until this Uptown oyster bar opens its rooftop patio on April 1.

9. The Firm - A Workout Studio
245 Aldrich Ave N, Minneapolis

Burn off winter weight and tone up for summer at this fitness studio.



10. Stone Arch Bridge and St. Anthony Falls
Sixth Ave SE and Main St SE, Minneapolis

Breakfast at the Nicollet Island Inn, then stroll across the

mighty Mississippi on the bridge that built an empire.

Theatre

Sabrina Fair
March 14 to Sat., April 5
Price: \$20
Theatre In The Round
245 Cedar Ave. Minneapolis

April 1- April 6
High School Musical
Historic State Theater

April 12-June 22
A Midsummer Night's Dream
Guthrie Theater

April 2- April 20
The Lady with All the Answers
History Theatre

Lectures/Events:

Thurs. April 17: The 2008 National Geographic Live! Speakers Series: "The Mississippi: A Photographer's Journey" with award-winning author and historian Stephen Ambrose
State Theatre
805 Hennepin Avenue
Minneapolis, \$10.50-\$37.50

Fri. April 11- Sat. April 12
Festival of Children's Literature at The Loft Literary Center
A 2-day children's literature seminar for writers, illustrators, publishing professionals, and educators. Book fair, author appearances, and book signings both days.

Stuck on "Lost"

By Tim Sailer, news editor

I'm addicted to "Lost." I needed to tell someone about it. Glad I got that off my chest.

But that's not enough. You need to be addicted to "Lost" too, so I can commiserate with fellow fanatics when _____ died.

Or when _____ time-traveled.

Or even that one time when _____ appeared on the island and we all thought he/she was dead.

I don't want to spoil it for anyone, because a few of you may not be in on the loop. Some of you may be scared out of your mind. Perhaps

some of you are even lost right now. Or maybe you want to escape this awful winter and live vicariously through Jack, Claire and Vincent as they sweat on the beach of one strange tropical island.

No matter what you feel about this show or any prime-time drama, "Lost" is a cultural phenomenon. In a few years, there's going to be a new version of Trivial Pursuit, and there will be questions about this show.

Don't you want to impress your friends by your acute sense of "Lost" knowledge?

This show has a little bit of everything: tensions between science, faith, and fate; polar bears on a tropical island; conspiracies and love triangles; characters with intricate and tangled pasts, which come to haunt or serve them later on; hundreds of allusions to literature; and the gorgeous Evangeline Lily who plays Kate.

The show takes place on a mysterious island. A large airplane suddenly crashes on it: Oceanic Flight 815. Many survive.

The show focuses on a large cast of characters. Typically, each episode focuses on one character and provides flashbacks into their lives. Often, the flashback parallels with the particular conflict on the island.

The writers do know what they're doing. They've been making promises to their audience. Those promises are gradually fulfilled as each season progresses.

I don't want to delve into the hundreds of theories about the "Lost" mythology. I can't risk giving away secrets to the series, which is now in its fourth season. Only two remain after this year.

For the skeptics: questions are being answered—slowly, but surely. Although I'm still not sure about the polar bears.

But that's what keeps me hooked. The looming mystery is the fun of "Lost." I scream at the television with my friends after each cliff hanger. There's a disparity between reality and science fiction/fantasy. The line is deftly blurred in this saga.

Recently, I've discovered a couple writers who write essays on the latest episodes. They peer into any illusions made, provide commentary, and spark gripping discussions online.

J. Wood on Powellsbooks.com provides an in-depth analysis that connects each episode to any literary counterparts.

I get to test my knowledge of literature when the show mentions the following titles: "Catch-22," "Watership Down," "Lord of the Flies," "Slaughterhouse Five," "The Heart of Darkness" and "The Tempest." Makes me feel proud to be an English major. These are real world applications!

Article continued on pg. 15...



Above: Sailer LOST n London. Photo courtesy of Tim Sailer
Below: LOST cast members. Photo courtesy of EW.com



The Mark of Success

By Sydnee Bickett, arts/variety editor



Last Thanksgiving, I reunited with several family members and friends I hadn't seen in years. And because I'm a senior at Concordia, the dreaded question was asked numerous times: "What are your plans post-graduation?" At first I thought it might be funny to answer with "What?! I'm graduating in May? Wow, I'd better find myself a grown-up job!"

But the more they laughed and then asked the question again in a more serious tone, the more the countdown to graduation began to sink it.

By the time you read this editorial, there will only be forty-three days left. Hopefully during those forty-three days, I will find a job, a place to live and a way to support myself. Isn't that what college graduates are supposed to do?

Aren't we supposed to move out on our own and walk into a business or corporation or organization, diploma in hand, and be handed a job? Preferably one that pays more than \$20,000 a year, of course.

Is this realistic? For some who have had countless internships or leads on jobs because their uncle's brother's second cousin works as a high-paid executive, it might be. However, for those who have struggled all four years, switched from major to ma-

ior and finally found something that fits, that dream is just that. A dream.

In talking with a family member who attends the University of Minnesota, we discussed graduation and careers. I told her what my dream job would be and she asked, "What is your college placement center doing to help you achieve that dream job?"

My what? Oh, she must have meant career services. For a few of my fellow graduating classmates, this office did nothing for their job search. I thought that maybe before the winter break I should make an appointment to review my resume and see if the office had anything helpful for me.

I'm an English major, so of course the job market should be wide open. After all, I can read and write really well.

There must be a job for me somewhere!

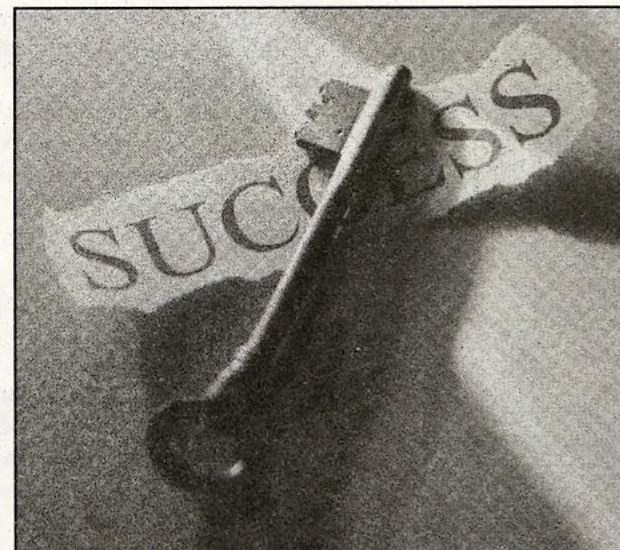
But after a session in which I was told I "needed more experience in my field," I regretted

choosing such a broad major. Who majors in English anyway? Most people who do end up teaching, and I do intend to go to graduate school in the near future. But if I'm not ready to make that move right away next September, what career path do I choose instead?

I understand that I shouldn't bash the Career Services office or expect to be handed a job immediately upon graduation. However, the office could stand to be a bit more helpful.

Instead of telling seniors that they are entering your office too late to get an internship or a job, welcome them with open arms.

Article continued on pg. 15...



Adventures in the Big Easy

By Erin Anderson, opinion editor

Photos courtesy of Erin Anderson



The city of New Orleans has something to offer all visitors. From the Cajun food, to the sights of Bourbon Street, to the blaring jazz, this is a city that is truly living and breathing.

I have been lucky enough to grace the streets of this colorful city three times, the most recent trip was over Easter break. It is the distinct culture of this effervescent city, along with the company of Steven Namanny who is living in New Orleans during his DCO internship, that keeps me coming back.

Many people I have talked with about New Orleans claim that the best feature is the cuisine. It is true that many individuals flock to this port city for the freshest catfish, shrimp, and crawdads around.

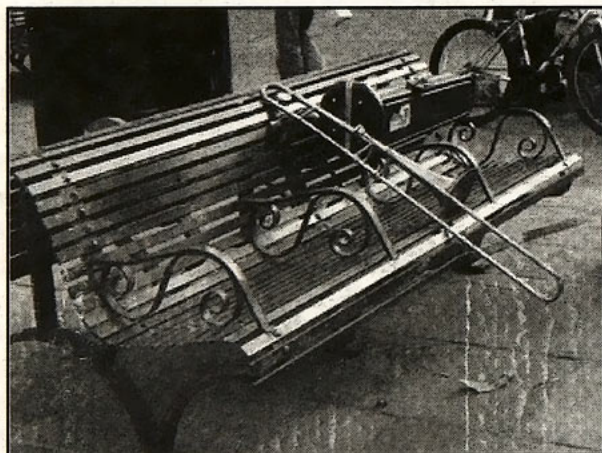
Personally, seafood freaks me out, so I stay far away from such water-dwelling creatures. If you're into bug-like crustaceans, be prepared to receive your order of shrimp piled high with the head and legs still attached.

My personal recommendation is the beignets from Café Du Monde. These warm and delicious pastries

are dusted with powdered sugar and taste best accompanied by a piping hot mug of café au lait. One order consists of three beignets, and let me tell you, it is extremely hard to share. Stealing a phrase from Lucky Charms, this treat is "magically delicious."

My favorite aspect of the city is all of the live jazz offered every night. I turned 21 two days before flying to New Orleans so I was finally able to gain entrance to the many jazz clubs dotted around the city. To be honest, I was far more excited to participate in the music than I was to legally order an alcoholic beverage.

The local jazz musicians are truly artists. The fervor of their playing pulls you in and their soulful sounds reverberate in your unconscious long after you have left the club. Steven Namanny and I spent a memorable evening at a jazz club in the French Quarter called Snug Harbor. The music was



unbelievable, which made the cover charge of \$20 worth every cent. I wish we could have spent every night at Snug Harbor, but alas, our funds were insufficient.

What I have really learned about New Orleans

is that this is a city whose roots run deep. The locals are so proud of their heritage and their culture, and it is no wonder. There is not another city in the world like New Orleans and that is why it is so crucial that the restoration process continue. If ever you have an opportunity to visit this amazing city, jump at it. I promise it will not be a trip you will soon forget.

Top 10 Films continued...

Instead it's a whole new start to the Hulk franchise, much like "Batman Begins." Ed Norton stars as Bruce Banner, and he is a much better fit for the role as well as just a better actor in general than the original actor who played Banner in the first film (Eric Bana). There is also a visceral villain this time with the Abomination, who works as the perfect nemesis to the Hulk. With hopefully a lot more action this time around and keeping with the story, this could be the "Hulk" movie fans of the series know it can be.

5. Tropic Thunder (August 15th)

Rounding out the summer on one of the last couple big-movie weekends is a new movie that was written and directed by Ben Stiller. It is an action/comedy about a group of filmmakers making a big budget war epic. The writer and director choose to locate the film in the middle of an actual war for realism, even though that results in the actors having to be actual heroes. Ben Stiller stars with Robert Downey Jr., Jack Black, and Matthew McConaughey in what looks to be a return to the 80's style high-concept comedies that have sort of died out, like "Beverly Hills Cop" and "Ghostbusters." The trailer looks like it could be really, really funny and work pretty well as an action movie too.

4. Speed Racer (May 9th)

The mind trip of the year will be come from the Wachowski brothers (Matrix, V for Vendetta). Starring Emile Hirsch ("Into the Wild") as the title character, this film looks to be the closest thing to an actual video game movie. I'm not really a fan of racing in any capacity, especially film/television because I find it hard to gauge how fast the cars are going which takes the excitement away from the experience. However, this film looks like the Wachowskis' have more than just straight racing planned as they bring along an arsenal of trick tracks and intense action sequences to work for even the most lukewarm fan of racing movies.

3. Iron Man (May 2nd)

This summer follows a recent trend

and is littered with superhero/comic book movies. Some have gone on to great commercial and critical success, while others have tanked big time.

"Iron Man" looks to be following in the successful trend. Featuring a cast that has more Academy Award wins and nominations than probably any other movies

this year, the film is led by Robert Downey Jr. as the title character Tony Stark/Iron Man. The Iron Man suit and action sequences look second to none, and they have really yet to show anything from the Iron Monger (the villain played by multiple Oscar nominee Jeff Bridges). If it ends up being as good as it looks, the film will surely be a treat for any fan of blockbuster movies.

2. The Dark Knight (July 17th)

In 2005, Batman was finally honored with a movie that lives up to what a Batman movie should be with "Batman Begins," a reboot to a dormant franchise. Now in its sequel, Batman will square off against arch-nemesis the Joker (who will be played by recently deceased Heath Ledger in one of his final starring roles). He also will be bringing some help to his cause with District Attorney Harvey Dent (he will become the villain Two-Face, hope I didn't spoil anything) played by Aaron Eckhart. "Batman Begins" was probably the most well-made superhero/comic book movie ever, and this sequel looks to be much in the same.

1. Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (May 22nd)

It's only been about twenty years since a new Indiana Jones movie was released, so this fourth installment seems overdue. Harrison Ford returns as one of the most popular characters in movie history returns along with Shia LeBeouf and Cate Blanchett to the big screen for another adventure. With an endless budget, the endless imagination of George Lucas and Steven Spielberg, I have very little doubt that this movie will live up to the amount of hype it has gotten in over the two decades since the last release.



Letters to the Editor

On Wed., March 12, 2008, Dr. Randy Winkler announced to the theatre students that he would immediately leave the university for personal reasons. He had been teaching at the university for six and a half years and was named chair of the theatre department in November 2007.

The following letters were written to the editors of the Sword in response to this announcement.

Students have met with administrators who have confirmed that Dr. Winkler has indeed left for personal reasons. There is currently no further official information available.

In matters of protest and disagreement at a university, students have only one real weapon - tuition dollars. Protests, meetings, letters, and other forms of expressing rage will express emotion quite well, but in order for real change to be made, real pain needs to be felt. Over the last few days I have heard a lot of people say that the outrage felt at the recent change of staffing in the theater department should be expressed, but that the program should continue to grow. I offer a much harder choice. I suggest that if you are upset, that if you feel wronged, that if you think this University has violated an ethical code - if it was written in a contract or otherwise - the most powerful thing that can be done, is leaving. Write a letter explaining why, and next semester, do not return.

I am not asking this of anyone without taking action myself. I had submitted my name for consideration for the Campus Ministry Associate position that is being vacated this year, but after learning what I would be signing onto at this institution, I am withdrawing that bid. I was considering coming to school here for an MBA, and they will not get so much as an application form from me. It costs \$30,000 a year to attend Concordia. Each student that is not here next year is a \$30,000 loss for them. If something like this has happened now, it has happened in the past, and will happen in the future. Letters will probably not change that. Money might.

It is a hard choice.

Jon Bohlinger

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to you today because words cannot describe how hurt, angry, sad, and frustrated I am over the leaving of Dr. Randy Winkler. I've never experienced loss like this before and it has affected me in ways I never thought it would. Since finding out the news, I have gone through periods of being physically sick to my stomach, having no appetite, not being able to sleep, depression, and randomly breaking down in tears. I am at a point now where I want my voice heard. Randy was my main reason for coming to Concordia. Two years ago, I sat in on his Script Analysis class and after watching him teach for ten minutes, I knew I wanted to come here. He has been a wonderful teacher, mentor, director, and friend and he was someone who was going to be essential to my future.

We do not know the reasons yet for Randy leaving. We will find out. They have said that he is leaving for personal reasons and are making it sound like it was "his" choice, but we know that this is just not the case! What this has shown us though is that it's obvious that this school and the administration don't care about us (theatre students) at all as people or our department in general. This really confuses me since President Holst is well known for attending every performance whenever we have a play run. Our theatre department used to be something to be proud of and now I don't even want to participate in theatre here. It is horrible that this was done in the first place, but it is even more rude and inconsiderate of administration for this to be done during the middle of the semester when Randy was in the midst of directing a musical and teaching classes. Because of this, I feel that my tuition money has been wasted this semester. I paid expecting Randy as a director, advisor, and professor and now I'm not going to get that. I'm getting another faculty member who is being forced to cover this ridiculous elimination. Also, I think it is important for other students to know that word about this has already gotten out around the cities and consequences could result for all of you who put this university on your resumes.

I use to be a big advocator of this school. I hosted perspective students and helped promote the school through the Honor's Program. I feel completely betrayed by this university now. I am ashamed to be accredited to it. I really don't think that I will be able to continue attending this school and live with my self. In my eyes, all I see from the administration now is a bunch of hypocrites and frankly, I don't know how they can sleep at night and call themselves Christians. I don't care what you say or what your political views are. Christians do not treat people in the way that this university has treated Randy Winkler and the theatre department. Whatever there reasons were, our department and this school will never recover from this loss. This news has left holes in many students' hearts, holes that they will carry with them for the rest of their lives. I encourage anyone to find where the "Community for Unity" is in that!

I know there are Christians out there that agree with me. Make your voice heard.

Amanda Snyder, sophomore

I've attended Concordia for almost 3 years now, and there are two things I have noticed which remain very consistent...

- 1) Communication between students, faculty, and administration is not Concordia's strongpoint
- 2) Gossip controls this University, and it travels very fast.

With that being said, I would like to tell a little story....

I was taking a stroll through the music department hall the other day, and noticed a small gathering of people outside the entrance to the theatre. As I passed, I recognized some familiar faces, but they were grief stricken. The majority of the people were crying, so it was quite apparent something was wrong. I was curious but didn't want to intrude, so I kept walking. Not but a few minutes later did I loop around the Pearson Commons to hear from a friend "Did you catch the latest Concordia drama?" he said with a sarcastic whisper. "Randy Winkler was fired today!"

So as accustomed to this University, I was bombarded with numerous stories of gossip about Randy Winkler and the theatre department throughout the week. The claims all varied, but the one thing that remained true in all the stories was that no one actually knew any information at all, other than the fact that Randy would be resigning shortly.

What is going on? Why is he leaving? Why are so many people upset about it? I went to ask another friend of mine who is in the theatre program, and even he didn't have any new information. This greatly confused me. Of all people, shouldn't those in the theatre program have the right to know what is going on? If I were dishing out \$30,000 for my education (which I am), and the head of the department in which I was studying under was asked to resign, got fired, or left, I would want some answers immediately.

Students who are involved in the theatre department and not getting answers, I will be praying for you. I hope that your questions will be answered, because you deserve it.

Matt Eicheldinger, junior

All letters must include the writer's name, e-mail address and phone number for verification.

The Sword reserves the right to edit all letters for style, space, libel and grammar.

Submission does not guarantee publication.

Letters to the Editor continued...

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my emotions about Dr. Randy Winkler leaving Concordia. Although we can speculate about the reasoning, it is unclear why he is leaving at the moment, but he is reluctant to leave. He wouldn't leave his students unless he was truly unhappy or pressured to leave. Randy has been a light to all of us here at Concordia, and he is an asset to the theatre department. He is an excellent teacher and director, and he is passionate about what he does. He has expertise in his field and he completed his doctorate within the last few years. There have been times when I felt that Concordia wasn't the right place for me, and Randy and the theatre department has made me want to stay. Now that feeling isn't there; I feel lost. Since I am pretty close to graduation and am pursuing a teaching degree as well, it is hard for me to transfer to another University. However, I have considered it, because I do not wish to be part of a University that has pushed the head of theatre into resignation. I doubt the theatre department will ever fully recover from such a blow. I strongly believe that it will fall apart.

Whatever the reason the administration decided to let Randy go, I feel that it is extremely discriminatory to have done so. Randy is a great person who is dedicated to teaching others about theatre and helping them grow. He wants his students to succeed, and he cares about them. He is very friendly and approachable. To make this exceptional man feel unhappy or uncomfortable in his profession in an institution like Concordia is a crime. What happened to the idea of being Christian and accepting people for who they are? Everybody has a choice in how they live and no matter the choices they make, they have the right to be treated equally. Everyone is different, but we all should be treated equally. We are all God's children, and the more we discriminate others because of their differences, the more we teach hatred. Concordia is a Christian University; should it be promoting hatred for one another? The obvious answer is "No," yet Concordia is promoting discrimination and hatred by letting Randy go. It's pretty obvious that something is going on, since the administration is not being clear with the students about why Randy is leaving. This makes me believe that they are hiding something and/or they don't think students will understand what is going on. Students have the right to know why their cherished teacher is being let go.

One of the main reasons I came to Concordia was for the excellent theatre program. Randy was an indispensable part of that excellence, and taking him away is like burning down the theatre building. Where are the theatre students going to go now? I feel like the administration doesn't sincerely care about Randy or the theatre students for that matter. If they really cared about us, why would they have done this? It seems that they weren't concerned about how this would affect their students. I have lost most, if not all of my pride for Concordia, and I probably wouldn't recommend that people attend this institution. I feel hurt and angered that such intolerance would be endorsed here at Concordia.

Thank you for reading this, and please keep Randy, the theatre faculty, and theatre students in your prayers. God bless!

Amy Bjornson: A Concerned Theatre Major

I have been a student of Randy Winkler's since my first semester at Concordia and I am furious about his recent midterm resignation. The news hit the Theatre Department like a death in the family and the past few weeks have been plagued by rumors and speculations fueled by the administration's silence. Rumors that, were they true, would shake the faith of many CSP students, Theatre majors and non, in the university and LCMS as a whole.

And nothing but the rumors makes sense.

Randy Winkler is without a doubt qualified for the Theatre Department Chair, having his doctorate in theatre and having taught at the college level for over ten years. In the classroom, Randy is knowledgeable and engaging. As a director, Randy treats students with a respect and appreciation that I find lacking from so many other CSP professors I encounter. In short, Randy loved his job, excelled at his job, and his students love him.

It is thusly by default that I come dangerously close to believing the ugliest, most hurtful rumor to be true.

But even that doesn't make sense. When Randy was hired seven years ago, he was the same man then as he is today. Randy has never been too forthcoming with personal matters, but he has never hid who he is from anyone. So what's changed? And if Randy was forced to leave, who's next? Is there going to be a purging of anyone at this school who comes in conflict with the LCMS doctrine?

If this school is changing its standards, the student body has a right to know. It is apparent to me, however, that the administration expects us to follow their decisions blindly.

The reason I wanted to come to a small private college was for the proposed idea that I would be a name, not a number. Since the recent actions of the administration, however, I have never felt more insignificant and disrespected.

Whoever was behind this decision has no idea what they've done and what the negative repercussions of this will be. Randy Winkler is beloved by many Alumni and other friends of the university as well as prominent members of the Twin Cities theatre community. It is for that reason that I feel it is in my best interest to distance myself from this disgrace as much as I can.

I would like to reiterate again how this affects students outside of the Theatre Department. If they can snatch away my favorite professor so readily, why not yours?

Rachel Kuhnle
sophomore theatre major,
undeclared English and Writing minors

Continued from
pg. 12

Stuck in Lost...

It makes me feel like a bit of a dork, too. But I don't mind.

Everybody has to have a show though. I find great comfort in going home after a long day of school to curl up on my couch with "Lost."

Go ahead! Start with season 1—it's imperative you start at the beginning, otherwise you'll definitely be lost.

Mark of success...

Instead of telling them they don't have enough experience, reassure them you will help them on the journey to landing a decent job. Instead of showing them job and internship websites that only you have access to, give them resources to help them embark on a successful search. And once you give them resources, follow up. Show you are invested in their future.

As a student of this university for the past three and a half years, I understand the importance of financial gifts from alumni and other donors. That's how places like the Gangelhoff Center, the Chapel addition, and the new dorms were funded.

However, if alumni don't get decently-paid jobs after graduation, how can the university expect us to give money to fund more building projects? If I'm struggling to put food on the table for myself and keep a roof over my head, the last thing I'll be thinking of is giving money back to the institution that put me in that situation.

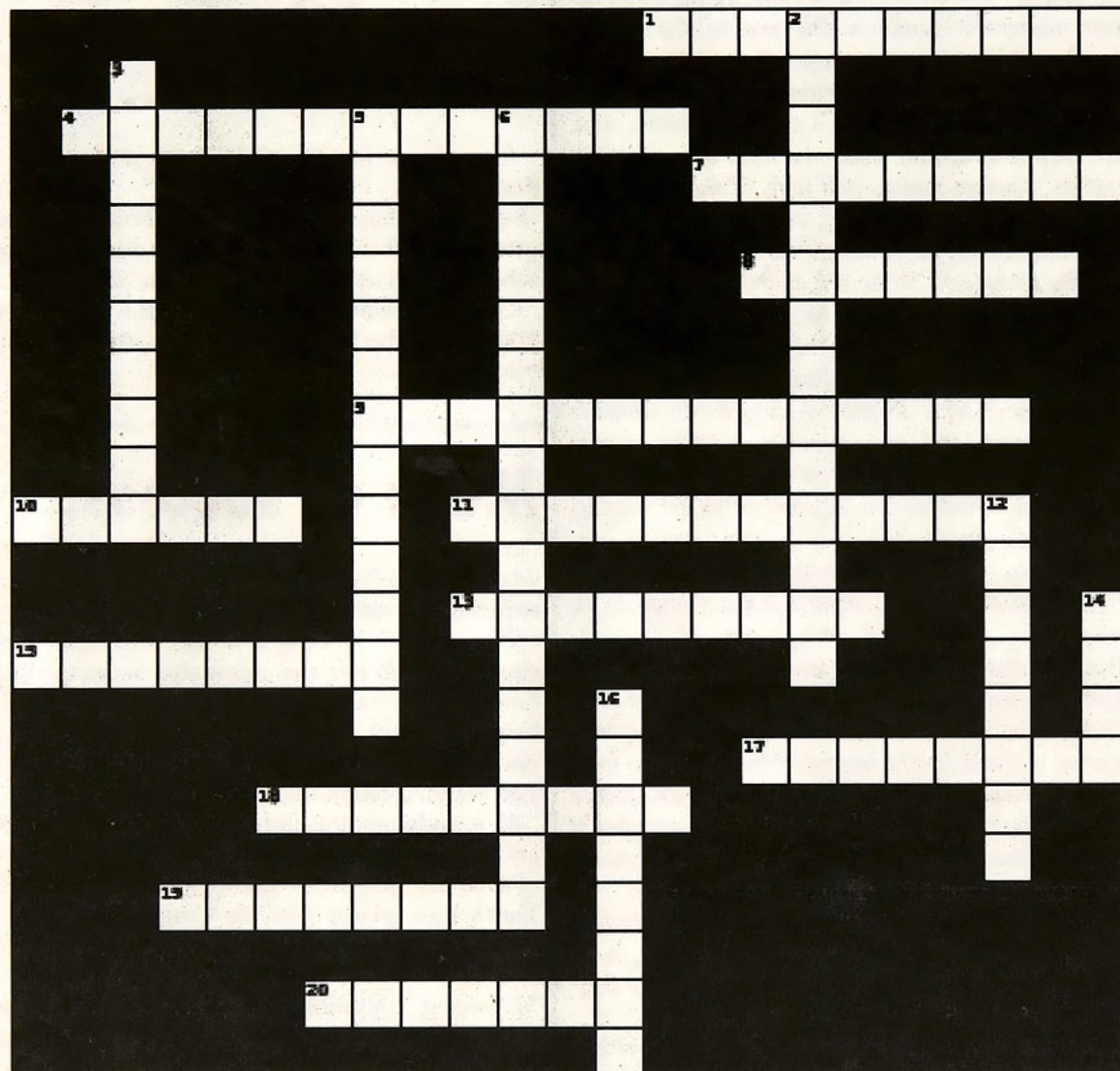
At my job, I see a bus drive by every day with a sign sponsored by Concordia University, St. Paul. I was excited to see such a sign at first. Then I read it. The sign proclaimed a fanciful idea: "If at first you don't succeed, then you're not one of our alumni!" Isn't this sort of a higher-than-thou concept?

Every time I see that bus, I think of my friends and recent graduates who majored in areas such as art and education. They aren't teaching or being paid thousands for their art; they're working as nannies and sandwich-makers. Would Concordia standards say they are succeeding?

This marketing ploy puts a strong focus on both alumni and the institution, but a focus, I fear, isn't there. Most students do strive to succeed and gain that job post-graduation. However, what is our university doing to help? An academic system that educates 2,236 students has only one career service specialist. The University of Minnesota educates 29,000 plus students and employs over thirty people as career service specialists. Granted, the U of M is a larger campus, but since we have a smaller campus here, there shouldn't be an issue meeting with students to help them succeed in a post-collegiate world.

Outdoor Recreation Crossword

By Lance Meyer, sports editor & Tim Sailer, news editor



Across

- 1 Hand Grenades.
- 4 1, 2, 3...Ready or Not, here I come.
- 7 Olympic sport that was once known as "Poona" in India during the 18th century.
- 8 Something you do with your dog on Summit Ave.
- 9 With a group of friends outside, or inside on your Xbox if it's raining.
- 10 Love is everywhere...on the clay, grass, and concrete
- 11 Curling outside on the cement.
- 13 A game of accuracy commonly referred to as lawn bowling.
- 15 Also known as "cornhole" or "corn toss".
- 17 Clowns, windmills, and water make it more difficult than you may think.
- 18 Underhand bullseye.
- 19 Sunflower seeds, chewing tobacco, and a pickle.
- 20 The Queen of Hearts challenges Alice to a game of this.

Down

- 2 Shoeless outside the Buetow with Mary Slinger, Maggie McNamara, and Maria Steinhagen.
- 3 Variation of Hide and Seek with an uncanny twist.
- 5 Certainly no GREY ducks in this game.
- 6 Hitter's game, often with four in the field.
- 12 Frisbee with rules, regulations, and a dozen and a half targets.
- 14 Hook, slice, and shank...the most frustrating of them all.
- 16 The game that has ripped up the "knoll" in recent years.

Golden Bear Athletic Events

- **Mar. 28-29 Men's Golf @ Auggie Invite, Willow Run GC, Sioux Falls, SD
- **Mar. 28-29 Women's Golf @ #20 Augustana Invite, Prairie Green GC, Sioux Falls, SD
- **Mar. 29 Baseball Double-header @ Bemidji State 12:00
- **Mar. 30 Baseball Double-header @ Bemidji State 12:00
- **Mar. 30-31 Men's Golf @ Wayne State Invite, Wayne CC, Wayne, NE
- **Mar. 30-31 Women's Golf @ Wayne State Invite, Wayne CC, Wayne, NE
- **Apr. 1 Softball Double-header Home vs. St. Cloud State 3:00
- **Apr. 2 Baseball Double-header Home vs. Minnesota, Crookston 2:00
- **Apr. 5 Baseball Double-header @ U-Mary 12:00
- **Apr. 5 Softball vs. U-Mary @ Wayne, NE 9:00
- **Apr. 5 Softball vs. Bemidji State @ Wayne, NE 1:00
- **Apr. 5 Softball vs. Minnesota, Crookston @ Wayne, NE 3:00
- **Apr. 5-6 Men's Golf @ Upper Iowa Invite, Amana Colonies GC, Amana, IA
- **Apr. 5-6 Women's Golf @ #14 Upper Iowa Invite, Amana Colonies GC, Amana, IA
- **Apr. 6 Baseball Double-header @ U-Mary 12:00
- **Apr. 6 Softball vs. Northern State @ Wayne, NE 12:00
- **Apr. 6 Softball vs. MSU Moorhead @ Wayne, NE 2:00
- **Apr. 8 Softball Double-header @ Winona State 2:00
- **Apr. 9 Baseball Double-header @ Minnesota Duluth 2:00

GAME NIGHT!!

April 3rd

IN THE UNION

from 8-11pm

Contact Staci Christensen to sign up for any tournament

Texas hold-em Starts @ 9:00

Jeopardy Starts @ 8:30

Ping pong tourney Starts @ 8:15

Pool Tourney starts @ 8:45

FREE FOOD AND PRIZES

Darts Tourney starts @ 8:15

Family Feud Starts @ 9:30

Athletic Spring Break Trips a Success: Coaches Weigh In

By Lance Meyer, sports editor

Late last month, Concordia's spring sports teams traveled to Florida to practice and compete in the warm weather while the snow continued to fall in Minnesota.

For a week over spring break, the baseball, softball, and golf teams seized the opportunity to escape the cold and finally got outside to see how their teams were shaping up for the start of the season. While a week may not seem like a sufficient amount of time

to get tuned up for a long season, it is far more beneficial than one might think.

The cold and snow of Minnesota force off-season practices indoors for the winter months, and quite often teams aren't able to get outside to practice before competition gets underway. If it wasn't for the annual southern trips all three teams take, they would be put at a substantial disadvantage not only

nationally but in the conference as well.

Baseball and softball have to have a certain number of competitions in order to compete in the national tournament; the southern trip allows them to reach that number. Even though they only

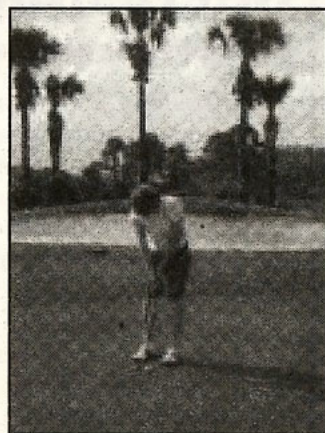


Above: John Maciej awaits pitch

played exhibition matches in

Florida, for golf, much like baseball and softball, it would be very difficult

to come out and compete in the first tournament at the beginning of March without being able to practice outdoors first.



Above: Danny Johnson

There are many benefits to the spring break trips that Concordia's teams take, and those benefits will

become very evident as the season rolls on. This spring, all three teams had very successful trips not only in the win column but by improving



Above: Kelsey Walt

both as a team and individually throughout the week.

The coaches were proud of their teams' performances and work ethic throughout the week, and all three expressed their excitement for the rest of their seasons.



Above: Amanda Bearson



Nick Gallaway watches drive after intimidating tee-shot



Above: Coach McKenzie & Joe Abellera

"The players played really well considering we hadn't been outside in five months. I saw some very positive things with each golfer, and the off season work that they have been doing is really paying off. The two new freshman transfers played very well on the men's side also. There will be some good inter-team competition on our men's team for securing one of the top 5 spots. We need to work on our short game, but that will come with time. Our first tournament is this coming weekend so we have to stay focused. I'm very encouraged by what I saw and expect some good things this spring from both teams."

--Matt Higgins

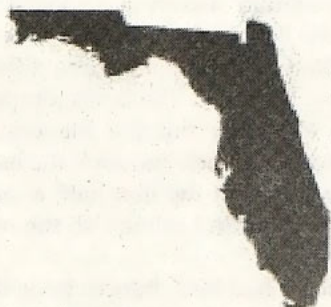


And now a word from the coaches...

"We finished with a record of 7 wins and 3 losses; I don't think we were satisfied with that. We felt we could have won every game, and with a few more timely hits, we would have. I think we learned that we have three solid pitchers, and we are capable of playing very good defense which should keep us in most games this season. We hit the ball well for the most part, scoring 57 runs in 10 games;

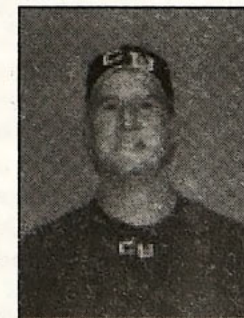
we just needed a little more offense in the losses. Natalie Mast had a great week offensively. She hit over .400 and stole 20 bases. Jenny Kaminski went 4-1 on the mound. I think we learned we're pretty good if we play to our abilities, and we'll struggle if we don't. All the girls enjoyed themselves."

--Bob Bartel



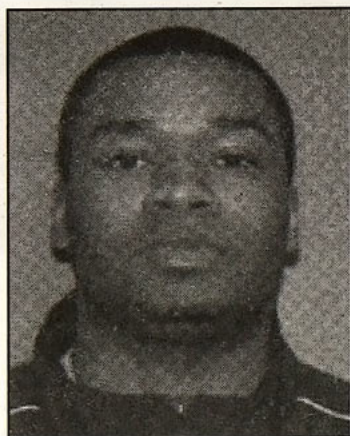
"The baseball team went 5-3, and 27 players played in games on the trip which is the most ever used on a spring trip. Overall the trip was a huge success. The team batting average stands at .358 as opposed to our opponents' average of .280. Five different pitchers also collected wins. We played the Minnesota Twins and were leading before they scored a come from behind 7-5 victory over us. Chris Herbert and Brenden Furrow homered against the Twins. We learned a lot about ourselves as individuals and as a team. We look forward to watching the team progress as we move along."

--Mark McKenzie



Concordia's Fastest Man

By John Pimental, contributing writer



Kawaskii Bacon
Class: Junior
High School: Edison
Sport: Track & Field
Event: Sprints
Major: Accounting

Concordia University's Track & Field teams concluded their indoor season recently at the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference meet in Bemidji Minnesota. After a long weekend of running, Kawaskii Bacon returned from Bemidji with two gold medals in his pocket, all-conference honors, and an even more impressive school record in the 200 meter dash.

In only his second season sprinting for the Golden Bears, Bacon has already made several alterations to the track & field record book. His times in the indoor 60m and 200m dashes, outdoor 100m and 200m dashes, and as a member of the 4x100m, 4x200m, and sprint medley relay teams have all replaced previous Golden Bear records. Last season, Bacon also qualified in the 100m and 200m events for the Division II Outdoor National competition.

Besides the long list of track records, there is more than meets the eye with this young athlete. One of Bacon's greatest ambitions is to someday open his own barbershop back in his home neighborhood.

"There are a lot of barbershops in my neighborhood, and I'd like to have my own, just a little different," Bacon explained.

Bacon was also featured recently on Concordia's own televised talk show, "CU Spotlight," hosted by

fellow track & field teammate Andrew Wyss. During the show, Bacon expressed interest in running in the Olympics. A high goal, but realistic given Bacon's personal best in the 200m dash is a mere half second shy of qualifying for the 2008 U.S. Olympic "B" Team Trials.

Shocking, considering his great success on the track in recent years, Bacon didn't begin running track until his senior year in high school, never having that much interest in it.

"I played football and basketball mainly; I hated running," said Bacon. As soon as the records began to fall, however, Bacon decided it was something he would stick with. "My coach would tell me after my race that I broke another record so I said, well maybe I'll give this a shot," added Bacon. Those same feelings are still present at Concordia as the records continue to fall.

While Bacon has found success on both the indoor and outdoor track, he enjoys the spring season outdoors more. "I'm a much better sprinter on the outdoor track," said Bacon, so I'm glad the first half of the season is over."

Most people don't know how crippling the indoor 200m track can be on a runner's performance. The tight turns can slow some runners down to a crawl. For example, Bacon's time in the outdoor 200m is nearly a full second faster than his indoor time in the same event.

Bacon's greatest characteristic through all his success has been his humbleness. He admits learning at a young age that success comes to an end when it goes to an athlete's head. His quiet personality has also added to his ability to be humble. Once that quiet shield is set down, he shines an entirely new light.

Bacon claims that his bones are made of titanium and that his fellow teammates should be afraid because he is a monster on the track, but those who know him have come to know him differently. These statements may be true on the track, but off the track Bacon is more widely known as the loveable ol' Kawasaki or Kowalski.

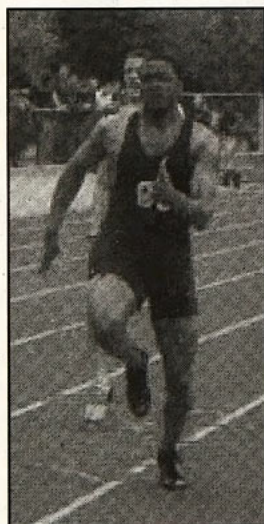


Photo Courtesy of John Pimental



Photo Courtesy of Concordia Athletics Department

A Memorable Season and an Interesting Future

By Stephen Batcher, contributing writer

The Golden Bears women's basketball team had an outstanding season. Their 28-2 regular season record set the mark for the best in team history, but unfortunately it had to come to an end in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

Led by seniors Katie LaViolette and Amanda Behnke, the Bears won the NSIC regular season and tournament titles. The Bears achieved a 16-2 NSIC conference record, winning the conference by four games. The team then celebrated their victory in the NSIC Tournament Championship game by dancing at center court.

The Golden Bears' great season was rewarded with a 3 seed in the North Central Region which in recent years has shaped up to be one of the more difficult regions in the nation. Having four highly ranked teams in their region alone, the women had their work set out for them.

Their first round match pinned them against future NSIC conference member Minnesota State Mankato. Concordia and Mavericks played once during the regular season in a contest in which the Bears came out on top 76-64 in Mankato. The rematch was a different story, however. The Bears jumped out on top early but the Mavericks came storming back and took the lead midway through the first half, a lead that they wouldn't relinquish the rest of the game.

The Bears had two chances to tie the game at the end. LaViolette and Kali Olstad both got good looks from the three point line as time winded down, but in the end the Bears came up short losing 73-70. The 3-point shooting had been off all day for the Bears shooting just 25%, their second worst effort of the season.

However, even though the season ended prematurely it was a season to be remembered. The Bears will miss Honorable Mention All-American seniors Katie LaViolette and Amanda Behnke as well as fellow seniors Mary Schroder, Kelly Lund, Whitney Smetana, and Megan Kirchenwitz next year but will look to rebuild with many talented players returning and Division I transfers suiting up next winter.

The Bears had a great season. They had almost thirty wins and only lost one game on the road. However they lived and died by the 3-pointer. In the three games they lost they shot 27%, 21%, and 25% respectively. Even with such a presence inside in Amanda Behnke, the Bears needed to be on from 3-point range to feel comfortable and win games. The Bears also could not get to the free throw line in their season-ending loss. They only shot nine free throws, a season low. On the season the Bears averaged 24 free throw attempts a game.

Besides these statistics the Bears still had their chances. Missed lay-ups and key turnovers hurt them drastically when it really counted. Unfortunately the loss to Mankato brought an end to some very good careers at Concordia, but the team will move on and look to quickly rebuild for the future. The volleyball program made a magical run in what was suppose to be a building year for them this last fall, so who's to say Coach Paul Fessler can't pull his own rabbit out of the hat come next winter.

Baseball and Softball Gear Up For the Spring

By Stephen Batcher

Even though the snow is still melting, spring is upon us and baseball and softball are just getting their seasons under way. For spring success to continue in the Concordia Athletic Department, however, both teams will have to replace some key starters from last year.

The softball team lost one of the best offensive players in school history, Amanda Yurek, along with their star pitcher, Kristen Schmidt, to graduation last year. The baseball team also lost a lot of key starters both on the mound as well as in the field. Both teams returned some solid players, however, including three all-conference performers on each squad.

Starting with the baseball team, they are returning starters at several positions including senior first baseman John Maciej who hit .342 with 10 doubles last season. Jake Waldman, returning second baseman and another offensive leader for the Golden Bears, hit .335 with nine home runs and led the team in base on balls with 25 last season. Derek Mason, who hit .362 with seven doubles as a shortstop last season and had a 3-1 record as a pitcher, will also return as a leader of this year's squad.

Jake Schmidt is the leading returnee on the pitching staff for the Golden Bears. Last year Schmidt was named to the All-NSIC Tournament team and had a season record of 6-3 with a 4.22 ERA. The hard-throwing Schmidt will be asked to carry a heavy load this spring, but he will get plenty of help from the eight other returnees on the pitching staff.

"I really think we are going to have a great year; we lost some good players but gained more than we lost," added Maciej.

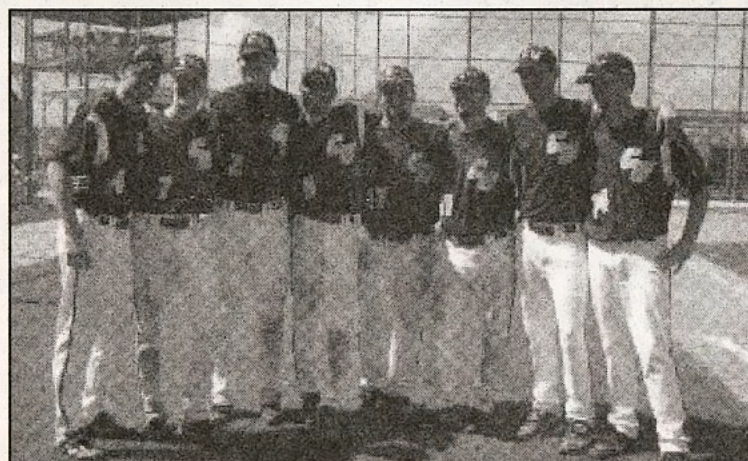
The Golden Bears also added depth to their strong list of returnees in the off-season as they went out and got seven transfers and one former minor league player out of the Twins organization, Joe Abellera. Eleven freshmen also join this year's team; they will look to improve and continue to be successful in the NSIC.

"We are really a team where every guy cares about each other and every guy is always pulling for each other; there's never really a negative moment with us," said Maciej.

As for the softball team, they will return all-conference players Anna Bjorlin, Abby Brundidge, and Mallory Olson, along with several other key players including Tiffany Rodd, Natalie Mast, Nicole Tischler, Jo-

sey Olson, Nikki Scherr and Jenny Kaminski.

Bjorlin led the team in hits, doubles, triples, and total bases last year while hitting .325. She also had 20 multi-hit games for the Bears. Brundidge nearly matched that, hitting .324 with 17 extra base hits and 33 RBI's. Mallory Olson, one of only two seniors on this year's squad, also had a good 2007 season hitting .314 with 37 RBI's. Mallory had .905 fielding percentage and is the Bears' returning leader in HR's



2008 Seniors Photo Courtesy of Ann Martin

and RBI's.

"I think we should be solid both offensively and defensively," said Bjorlin about this year's team. "Our pitching will have a huge impact on our success as each of our pitchers has separate strengths that will catch opponents off guard."

The Golden Bears will also look to get help from Natalie Mast who is running her way to the CU record books in the steals category. Mast was 29-33 in stolen base attempts last season,



Photo Courtesy of Concordia Athletics Department

and if she can continue to get on base this spring, she will really help Bears manufacture runs. Rodd and Tischler will strengthen the Bears defensively.

Kaminski will be the only returning player with college pitching experience for the Bears and will look to improve on last year's performance. Two pitchers, Stephanie Jo Schmickla and Casandra McMahon, join the

Golden Bears as well this spring, and both will look to make an immediate impact.

Both teams return valuable players with a lot of experience, but both will have tough springs as each has to fill major holes left from last season. Head coach Lunch McKenzie will have his team prepared and ready by the time conference rolls around. There will be some baby steps and kinks to work out early, but the team should finish in the top four in the conference and

could be a regional qualifier with a couple big wins.

Softball, on the other hand, has a very young team with only two seniors, but they are mature because of the experience

their young players got last year. This season is primed to be an improvement from last year, and the Bears should compete for a conference crown again. This year's squad has lots of potential, and if the pitching is there this spring, they could easily join the guys and make a run at regionals.

Both teams have got off to quick starts in the early weeks of their seasons as each collected several wins in Florida over spring break. The baseball team posted a 5-3 record in

Fort Myers while the softball team won seven of their nine games.

"We learned a lot about ourselves as individuals and as a team," said McKenzie. "We look forward to watching

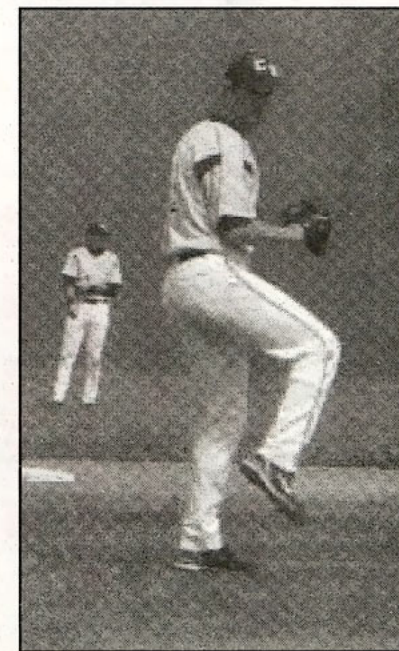
the team progress as we move along."

Several of McKenzie's veteran players have stepped up big for the Golden Bears including Maciej who hit over .400 on the southern trip. Senior Joe Abellera and sophomore Blake DeVries joined Maciej with hot bats, both hitting better than .500 for the week. The Golden Bears got wins from five different pitchers including complete games from seniors Derek Mason and

Eric Utoft and junior Ted Farni showing the depth that is so vital throughout the long spring season.

Head softball coach Bob Bartel had mostly the same feelings about the opening weeks of the season as McKenzie. "I think we learned that we have 3 solid pitchers," said Bartel. "We are also capable of playing very good defense which should keep us in most games this season."

The pitching staff was led by Kaminski who went 4-1 on the week for the Golden Bears showing that she has what it takes to lead Bartel's team this season. The Bears' top offensive player this spring so far has been Nast, who led the team in Florida hitting over .400 at the plate and stealing an astonishing 20 bases. Both Nast and Kaminski will have to continue their hot play much like McKenzie's veteran players if they want to continue their early success the next couple months.



Senior Eric Utoft Sets to Deliver Photo courtesy of Ann Martin

We'll miss you, Randy!

Blessings on your future endeavors!

Jameson Baxter
Katie Benke
Laureen Berlin-Berns
Sydnee Bickett
Melanie Beier
Debra Beilke
Brennan Blomgren
Thomas Boutilier
Deborah Braun ('04)
Nathan Burrows ('07)
Amanda Busby ('05)
Eric Cannedy ('06)
Kait Craig
Kody Dougan
Elizabeth Ehlenz
Becky Erickson
Stella Fasanello ('05)
Gabby Fountain
Joanna Gimbel
Elin Gomez
Amy Gort
Susan Johnson Hanlon

Alex Heetland
Rebekah Henrickson
Gretchen Hintze
Michael Horejsi
Josh Huber
Andrew Jones ('06)
Andrew Johnson ('03)
Kaitlin Johnson
Katrina Johnston ('07)
Adam Koglin

Rachel Kuhnle
Tabitha Langfeldt
Kellsey Lee
Graham L. Lovhaug ('07)
Josiah Laubenstein
Tara McMiller
Christine Mennicke
Dr. David Mennicke
MaryLynn Mennicke
Sheryll Mennicke
Susanna Mennicke
Lance Meyer
Melanie Moga
Dr. Monica Murray
Jeana Ogren
Carol Olson
Stephanie Olson
Tammy Pearson
Joshua Pehl
Prof. Barbara Prince
Michael Rokenbrodt
Mark Rosenwinkel

Matt Ryan
Grif Sadow
Tim Sailer
James Seemann
Joy Sewing
Greta Schulz
Shelly Schwalm
Aaron Singleton ('06)
Amanda Snyder
Prof. Shari Speer
Heidi Spesard-Noble
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